



DEPARTMENTS OF THE ARMY AND THE AIR FORCE  
NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU  
1411 JEFFERSON DAVIS HIGHWAY  
ARLINGTON, VA 22202 3231

September 15, 2005

Office of Legislative Liaison

The Honorable Patty Murray  
United States Senate  
Attn: Evan Schatz  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Murray

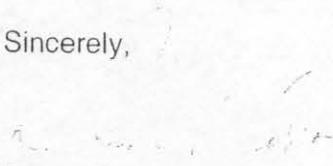
This is in response to your letter regarding eligibility for a re-enlistment/extension bonus.

The National Guard Bureau's Office of Manpower Policy has carefully reviewed your inquiry. Unfortunately, the National Guard is restricted by Department of Defense Instruction (DODI) 1205.21 which governs the *Reserve Component Incentive Programs*. The current version of DODI 1205.21 prohibits Active Guard and Reserve (AGR) soldiers from receiving Selected Reserve Re-enlistment/extension bonuses. The Army National Guard (ARNG) distributed a policy dated January 14, 2005, authorizing bonuses for AGR and Military Technician (Mil Tech) soldiers who were deployed overseas under Title 10. The policy was distributed without concurrence from the Office of the Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs (OSD-RA).

OSD-RA became aware of the policy in April 2005, and directed the ARNG to cease all AGR and Mil Tech payments. In compliance with the OSD-RA directive, ARNG contacted the Defense Finance Accounting Service to cease any future payments. DODI 1205.21 is currently under review and has a standing non-concurrence from the Army as a result of this matter. This is a critical issue and ARNG is aggressively engaged with OSD-RA.

We trust you find this information helpful.

Sincerely,

  
Donna Warren  
United States Air Force  
Chief, Congressional Inquiries